Can you quickly recognize symptoms of acute flaccid myelitis?  
AFM is a rare but serious syndrome that causes sudden arm or leg weakness, mostly in children.  
Symptoms include sudden arm or leg weakness and loss of muscle tone and reflexes.  
Some people may also have difficulty moving the eyes or drooping eyelids, facial droop or weakness, or difficulty swallowing or slurred speech.  
Most patients developed AFM in late summer or early fall...  
And had respiratory symptoms or fever consistent with a viral infection less than a week before onset of limb weakness.  
AFM can progress quickly—patients may require respiratory support and need to be hospitalized.  
Promptly recognizing AFM symptoms and hospitalizing patients are critical to provide the best care.  
What can parents, doctors, and health departments do?  
Find answers at www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns